

**METHOD OF AND APPARATUS FOR INCREASING THE PERMEABILITY  
OF WRAPPERS OF ROD-SHAPED ARTICLES**

**ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE**

1           Apparatus for increasing the permeabilities of  
2   central portions of tubular wrappers which form part  
3   of successive filter cigarettes of double unit length  
4   being turned out by a tipping machine. The central  
5   portions of the wrappers include adhesive-coated uniting  
6   bands which are convoluted around filter mouthpieces  
7   in a first portion of a rolling channel for successive  
8   filter cigarettes. A perforating unit which employs  
9   laser beams is set up to simultaneously perforate the  
10   central portions of the wrappers of several successive  
11   cigarettes in a second portion which immediately follows  
12   or partially overlaps the first portion of the channel.  
13   Each wrapper can be provided with two or more annular  
14   arrays of perforations.